## Sick Leave Insurance Program (SLIP) Information & FAQs

This program is an opportunity for state employees who are eligible for an lowa Public Employee Retirement System (IPERS) bona fide retirement to use all or part of their unused sick leave balance to pay the employer share of their health insurance premiums after they retire or until such time as they meet one of the ineligibility reasons, as listed below:

- The retiree returns to permanent state employment
- The retiree turns 65 years of age (Medicare bridge program)
- The retiree exhausts their SLIP balance
- The retiree becomes deceased
- . The retiree terminates insurance benefits with the State's group health insurance program
- The retiree fails to pay any employee share due

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Q1: How do I make an address change?

A1: Click here to make a "Change of Address". This form may be sent electronically or printed and mailed to the contact information listed below:

Iowa Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise Attn: Lisa Ayers, Central Payroll, SLIP Accountant Hoover State Office Building, 3rd Floor 1305 E. Walnut Des Moines, Iowa 50319

#### Q2: Who do I contact if I have questions about my SLIP account?

A2: For questions regarding your SLIP account, please contact <u>Lisa Ayers</u>, SLIP Accountant, Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise at (515) 281-3714.

# Q3: Will I receive notification from someone when I am close to exhausting the funds in my SLIP account?

A3: Yes, the Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise will monitor the SLIP balances and will send out notices to retirees when they are within 60 to 90 days of exhausting their SLIP balance.

#### Q4: Who do I contact if my spouse is or becomes Medicare eligible?

A4: If the spouse is or becomes Medicare eligible it is very important to contact the Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise because the monthly health insurance premium amount that is charged is lower due to the Medicare coverage. Contact Lisa Ayers, SLIP Accountant, at (515) 281-3714.

# Q5: Who do I contact if my spouse has Medicare and also has the Wellmark offered Medicare Part D insurance plan SilverScript?

A5: Please notify the Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise, if you have chosen a Wellmark insurance plan other than Deductible 3 Plus, have a spouse that is covered by Medicare, and that spouse has the Wellmark offered Medicare Part D insurance plan SilverScript. The monthly premium that is charged is lower for all Wellmark plans, excluding Deductible 3 Plus, due to the additional coverage of SilverScript for which the retiree is paying. Please contact Lisa Ayers, SLIP Accountant, (515) 281-3714.

- Q6: If I was paying an employee share for a family plan when I was an active employee, who pays the employee/retiree share now that I am retired?
- A6: The retiree is responsible for the employee share of the health insurance premium if they have chosen a family plan with an employee/retiree share. Retirees will be billed directly by the health insurance company for their portion of the health insurance premium.
- Q7: Which State agency is responsible for making monthly premium payments to my insurance company?
- A7: The Iowa Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise is the State agency that is responsible for making the payment of the health insurance premium to the health insurance companies. The retiree's former department is charged for these costs.
- Q8: Who do I contact if I have questions about my health insurance coverage?
- A8: For questions regarding your health insurance coverage, please contact <u>Rachel Orris</u>, Department of Administrative Services, Human Resources Enterprise, Group Insurance at (515) 281-6124.
- Q9: Who do I notify if I need to make changes to my policy or individuals covered by my policy?
- A9: To make changes on your plan coverage, such as adding a dependent or deleting a dependent, contact Rachel Orris, Department of Administrative Services, Human Resources Enterprise, Group Insurance at (515) 281-6124.
- Q10: Can I return to work after I retire and still continue to receive benefits of the SLIP program?
- A10: Before returning to state employment, or any IPERS-covered employer, please contact IPERS at (515) 281-0020 (8:00 am 4:30 pm) or 1-800-622-3849 (7:30am 5:00pm) to make sure you will not be jeopardizing your bona fide IPERS retirement. And remember, one of the terms of the SLIP benefit program is that you will forfeit your remaining benefits if you return to permanent State employment.
- Q11: What is the definition of a bona fide IPERS retirement?
- A11: To have a bona fide retirement, you must meet all of the following conditions. You must:
  - Apply for and begin receiving monthly benefit payments
  - Terminate employment with all IPERS0covered employers, including non-covered service with covered employers
  - Remain unemployed with all IPERS0covered employers for one month, and not work in covered employment for three additional months.

If you have additional questions about the SLIP program, click here for more information.

For questions regarding your lowa Public Employee Retirement System (IPERS) retirement, contact IPERS directly at (515) 281-0020 (8:00am - 4:30pm) or 1-800-622-3849 (7:30am - 5:00pm).